

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



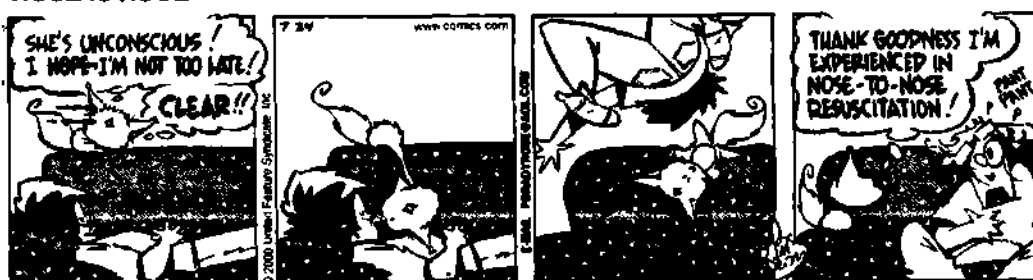
9 CRICKWEED LANE



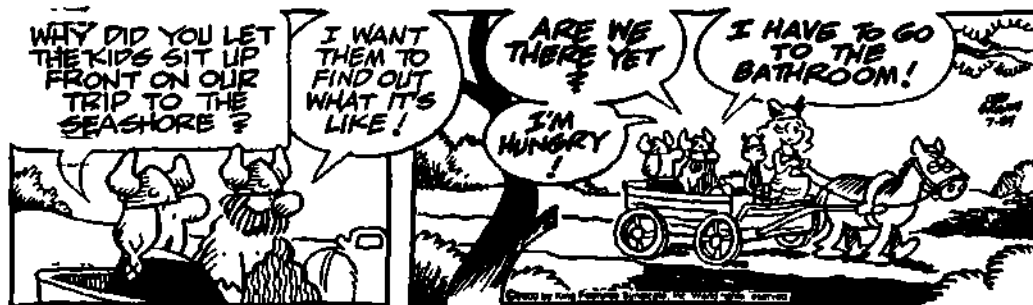
JUMP START



ROSE IS ROSE



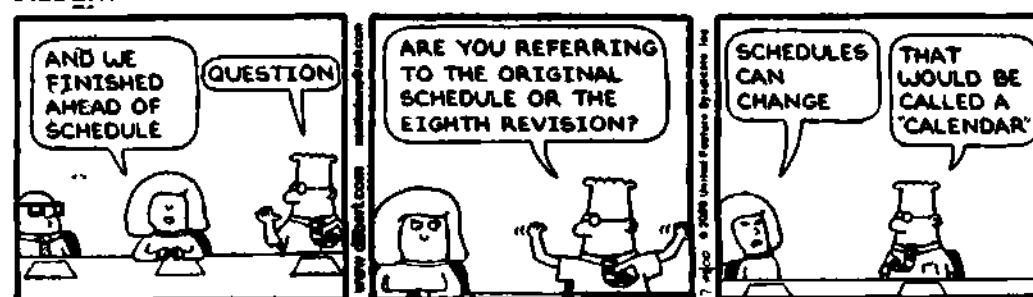
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



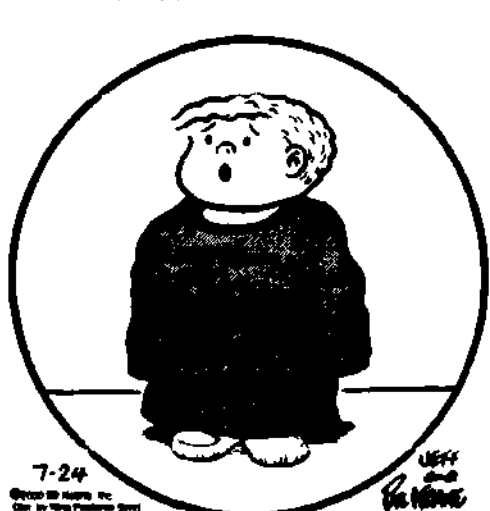
DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



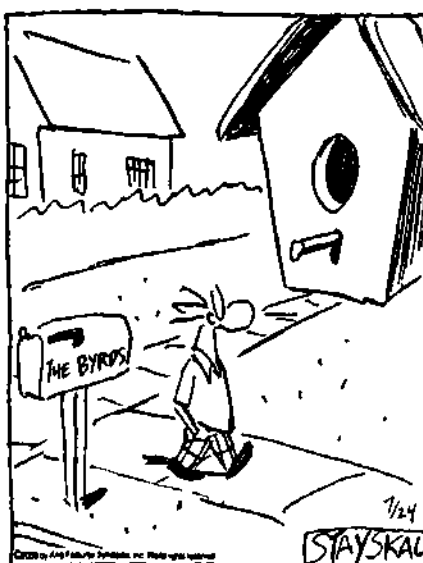
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



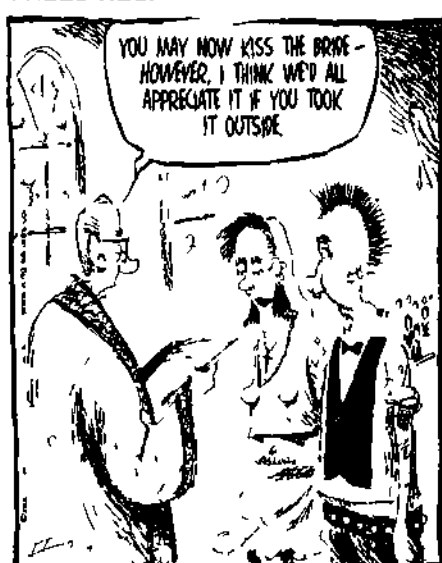
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Movie director Peter Yates is 71
Actress Jacqueline Brouckes is 70
Political cartoonist Pat Oliphant is 65
Comedian Ruth Buzzi is 64
Actor Mark Goddard is 64
Actor Dan Hedaya is 60
Actor Chris Sarandon is 58
Actor Robert Mays is 53
Actor Michael Richards is 51
Actress Lynde Carter is 49
Movie director Gus Van Sant is 48
Country singer Pam Tillis is 43
Actor Kadeem Hardison is 35

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

PAR SCORE 185-175 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using score grid on right. 7 letter words get 50 point bonus. Blanks used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble® Players Dictionary (later with Webster's and OGIW Official Scrabble Words (© 1999) Judd's SOLUTION TOMORROW 7-24-00

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

THINGS WE CLOSE

U R O L C I F C R Z W T Q N K
P I F C O Z W U E R P M J H E
C I Z X N U S Q T N L J G E C
Z X H V F N I A T R U C T R P
N L J S E Y E R U O H E C A Y
W V T V R D H R H P R N L K I
G F L T E E R T S A O E C B Z
X A I W N T B A U K O O B U S
V R P L C O A M W O D N I W M
G N I T E E M G E E M L J I G
E D B A Y S D N I M R U O X W

Saturday's unlisted clue VENUS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Monday's unlisted clue from MOVABLE THEATER DRAPE

A street	Dinner	Membership	Shutter
Book	Fare	Mouth	Value
Conference	Gate	Our eyes	Window
Door	Meeting	Our minds	

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For solution, see Classified.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0612

ACROSS

- 1 "Yikes"
6 Actor Mineo and others
10 Aug.'s follower
14 Sound thinking
15 Strung tightly
16 The O'Hara homestead
17 Catastrophic event
18 "How sweet"
20 Camera shot that gets all the details
21 Logos
24 Sicilian eruptor
26 Pivotal Kappa
28 Chauffeurs
33 "I was out of town at the time of the murder," e.g.
35 Tree with cones
36 Neon or oxygen
38 Locale for a 17-Across
43 Underhanded
44 Raise (cause a ruckus)
45 Soup seasoning
46 The South and the Southwest
48 Right away, on a memo
50 Messy dresser
52 Partner of 4-Down
54 Song starting "My country, 'tis of thee"
57 Team heads

DOWN

- 1 Con Ed power Abbr.
2 Hockey score
3 Soil Prefix
4 Morse marks
5 Flight board, e.g.
6 Daze
7 Car owners' org.
8 An apostle
9 Plant part
10 Clowns' props
11 Consumed
12 Kind of ballroom
13 Soviet news service
16 Part of QED
22 Deprived (of)
24 Matured, as fruit
25 Lowest voice
27 Airline to Israel
28 Multisyllable
29 Lawyers' org.
31 By way of
32 Li's inferior, in the Navy
34 Evil spirits
36 Fellows

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

WILDED DEMOTION
PENSEE EVIDENCE
LASSIE VENDETTA
ANAS JAMES RAY
STAY POLED YONE
HIS ALOUD WISER
ELONGATE JAW
BYNORV LIKEDAD
SEE CLOTHES
ONAKE NOGIA DUE
NEPS PESOS YEMP
ACE DUQIN HENAN
VENCOMEN AERATE
ONCOMING DASTES
STUDENTS CREEOS

By Bobby Wolff

South took West's spade king, drew trumps, and conceded a spade, East winning. East shifted to his diamond nine, covered by the 10 jack and ace. South then cashed dummy's club ace and took a losing finesse to West's club queen. West exited safely in clubs, and South was left with another diamond loser for one down. It was reasonable to win the first spade draw trumps, and exit in spades. However, some might argue otherwise ducking the first spade to keep East off lead in today's layout, it didn't matter. South should have prevailed whichever way he went. When East shifted to the diamond nine, it was correct to cover with the 10. But it was not best to win West's jack with dummy's ace. After West wins his diamond jack and exits with a low diamond, a duck in dummy would lead to success. But it would be poor technique. Instead, South should clinch his game by winning dummy's diamond ace on the second round and exiting with a third diamond, forcing either defender to break the club suit. Correct technique ensures the game regardless of where the minor-suit honors lie.

ACES

NORTH
♠ 32
♥ K10852
♦ A63
♣ A J7

WEST EAST
♠ K Q J 9 5 4 ♠ 10 8 7
♥ 5 ♥ 13
♦ 8 4 ♦ 9 8 7 5
♣ Q 6 3 ♣ 9 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A 6
♥ A Q 9 7 4
♦ K 10 2
♣ K 10 8

Vulnerable Both
Dealer East

The bidding
East South West North
Pass 1♥ 2♠ 1♠
Pass 3NT Pass 4♥
All pass

Opening lead: Spade king

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch tone phone 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-800-7 ACROSS